Madison Bavasso

Week 4-Reflection Paper

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After reading chapters 2 & 3, I gained a lot of knowledge regarding the past and future of American education. One of the most important things that I took away from the chapters was that our world is rapidly changing and growing more and more diverse and that is affecting our school systems immensely. Schools are growing, special education programs are growing, busing is growing, diversity is growing, basically everything is growing. With growth comes complexity. I found it interesting that with all the growth and complexity, we are taking measures to development new learning theories and effective research to better understand and improve student learning. It was nice to see that recent trends include analysis of teaching and effective teaching movements. It is important for the teachers to stay up to date with this rapidly changing world of ours. The most intriguing thing in either chapter for me was how home schooling has evolved over the years. In the past home schooling was for children who lived to far away from school and so their parents taught them from home. Now homeschooling is implanted for different reasons such as, parents not wanting their children to be exposed to problems in public school. Some of the problems include bullying, drugs, alcohol, or gangs. This is one of the examples of how our world has rapidly changed throughout the years and how it has affected the school systems. I think the main takeaway from these chapters is how our advances and growth in everything around us like diversity, technology, crime rates, auto developments etc. have shaped the American education system. We have come from hornbooks and slate to smart boards and laptops. It truly is amazing to see how the American education system has grown.